

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 3102

LIMDIS

S/IL FOR DALE GOOD

IO FOR PALMER

PASS LABOR FOR SAMUEL, HOROWITZ, QUACKENBUSH, AVERY AND
LINSENMAYER

PASS COMMERCE FOR UPTON

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ILO, PLAB
SUBJ: POSSIBLE CITATIONS OF COMMUNIST COUNTRIES FOR VIO-
LATION OF ILO CONVENTIONS

REF: GENEVA 2966

1. SUMMARY: THIS MESSAGE CONVEYS COMMENTS OF AN ILO
OFFICIAL ON THE POSSIBILITIES THAT THE INTERNATIONAL
LABOR CONFERENCE (ILC) MIGHT PUT CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND
THE USSR ON THE SPECIAL LIST FOR VIOLATION OF ILO
CONVENTIONS. HIS REMARKS ON THE CZECH CASE (SEE PARA
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TWO BELOW) SHOULD BE HELPFUL TO THE U.S. DELEGATION
TO THE ILC. HIS COMMENTS ON ISRAEL AND EGYPT WILL BE
REPORTED SEPTEL. END SUMMARY.

2. WE ASKED NICHOLAS VALTICOS, ILO ADVISER FOR
INTERNATIONAL LABOR STANDARDS, ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY
THAT THE CZECHS AND THE SOVIETS MIGHT BE PUT ON THE

SPECIAL LIST AT THE ILC. VALTICOS NOTED THAT THE ILC
PLENARY MADE THE FINAL DECISION ON CITING COUNTRIES,
BUT SAID THAT IF THE RESPONSE OF THE CZECH GOVERNMENT
TO QUESTIONS PUT TO IT LAST YEAR BY THE ILC COMMITTEE
ON APPLICATION OF CONVENTIONS CONCERNING THEIR COMPLIANCE
WITH THE CONVENTION ON DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT
(111) WAS INADEQUATE, THE COMMITTEE WOULD INDEED HAVE
REASON TO RECOMMEND THAT THE CZECHS BE CITED. VALTICOS
NOTED ANOTHER ALTERNATIVE; HE SAID THE COMMITTEE COULD
ASK THE CZECH GOVERNMENT TO PERMIT A REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE ILO DIRECTOR GENERAL TO GO TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA
TO INVESTIGATE CRITICISMS RAISED BY THE COMMITTEE OF
EXPERTS AND BY THE ICFTU COMPLAINT NOW PENDING. VALTICOS
SAID THAT IF THE CZECH GOVERNMENT REFUSED TO ACCEPT
AN INVESTIGATION BY THE DG, THE ILC COMMITTEE ON
APPLICATION OF CONVENTIONS WOULD HAVE A STRONG BASIS
FOR RECOMMENDING THAT THE CZECHS BE CITED ON THE
SPECIAL LIST.

3. ON THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE USSR MIGHT BE CITED FOR
PERSISTENT VIOLATION OF THE CONVENTION ON FORCED LABOR
(29), VALTICOS SAID THAT DEPENDED ON THE RESPONSE OF THE
USSR TO QUESTIONS RAISED AT THE ILC LAST YEAR AND
BY THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS LAST MONTH (SEE PARAS
THREE AND FOUR OF REFTEL).SORENSEN

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